

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for promoting efficiency of gene transfer into plant embryos, plant calli or cultured plant cells by a bacterium belonging to genus *Agrobacterium*, which comprises:

a) heating and centrifuging said plant embryos, plant calli or cultured plant cells; and

b) contacting said plant cells or plant tissue with the bacterium so that the gene is transferred into the plant;

wherein contact between the plant cells or plant tissue and the bacterium occurs after or while heating and/or centrifuging the plant cells or plant tissue,

wherein heating is performed at a temperature of 37 °C to 52 °C for 1 minute to 24 hours, [[and]]

wherein said centrifuging is carried out under a centrifugal acceleration of 1000G to 150,000G for 1 second to 4 hours and

wherein the efficiency of gene transfer is increased in comparison to the efficiency of gene transfer by *Agrobacterium*, wherein the plant cells or plant tissues are not heated or centrifuged according to steps a) and b).

2-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) A method for preparing a plant characterized by using the method according to claim 1.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said plant cells or plant tissue used are(is) originated from an angiosperm.

15. (Original) A method for preparing an angiosperm characterized by using the method according to claim 14.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein said plant cells or plant tissue used are(is) originated by a monocotyledon.

18. (Original) A method for preparing a monocotyledon characterized by using the method according to claim 17.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) The method according to claim 17, wherein said plant cells or plant tissue used are(is) originated from a plant belonging to family Gramineae.

21. (Original) A method for preparing a plant belonging to family Gramineae characterized by using the method according to claim 20.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) The method according to claim 20, wherein said plant cells or plant tissue are(is) of rice or maize.

24. (Original) A method for preparing rice or maize characterized by using the method according to claim 23.

25. (Canceled)